



NOTES FOR FURTHER STUDY

REFLECTION

- What are some common sources of conflict in your life? Is most of the conflict you face with family, co-workers, friends, or others?
- Which of the six points of advice from the sermon speaks to you the most? Why?

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read **Romans 12:9-18**.
 - What are God’s expectations for us regarding our relationships with others?
 - What do you think it means to “let love be genuine” (v. 9)?
 - What does it mean to “show honor” to someone? How can we “outdo one another in showing honor” (v. 10)?
 - What do you think it means to “live in harmony with one another” (v. 16)? What is the relationship between “living in harmony” and “letting love be genuine?” Do you think “living in harmony” means that there is never conflict or disagreement?
 - Is it ever impossible to “live peaceably” with someone (v. 18)? If so, why? How should we respond in these situations?
- Read **Matthew 18:15-16**.
 - What should we do when we face potential conflict with another person? Who should we approach first, and how should we approach them (on Facebook or face-to-face)?
 - Why is this hard for us to do? What are we more apt to do instead and why can that cause more problems?
- Read **Ephesians 4:25-27,29**.
 - How should we speak to others, especially when there is conflict?
 - What does it mean to “be angry and do not sin” (v. 26)?
 - What should be our goal if we must confront someone (v. 29)?

³⁷ And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” – **Matthew 22:37-39**

To handle relational conflict:

1. Discuss the problem with GOD.

¹ What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. – **James 4:1-2**

2. Remember, it starts with YOU.

²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. – **Matthew 5:23-24**

3. Use your EARS more than your MOUTH.

¹¹ Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs. – **Proverbs 19:11** (NLT)

4. Admit your own MISTAKES.

⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. – **Matthew 7:5**

5. Attack the PROBLEM not the PERSON.

¹ A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. – **Proverbs 15:1**

6. Remember the price JESUS paid for a restored relationship with YOU.

¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation – **2 Corinthians 5:18**